

POLICY PERTAINING TO EXAMINATION AND DESIGNATION OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR-IN-TRAINING (PLSIT)

TCA 62-18-109(b) (1) provides for the contingent change in the eligibility for registration and licensing of professional land surveyors in Tennessee effective July 1, 2003. This law prescribes three categories of requirements which persons desiring to become licensed in Tennessee may elect. Each of these categories provides a combination of educations, experience and examination for a candidate for registration and licensing. These requirements are set forth in a chronological progression of career development regardless of the category or option selected. Each option provides that a candidate:

1. Complete educational requirements beyond high school by acquiring a college degree with surveying related courses completed within or in addition to the process. Gaining knowledge is emphasized.
2. Passing a knowledge-based examination. Currently the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) provides a knowledge-based examination styled the Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FLS) that requires eight hours to complete, is closed book and given twice each year, in April and October. After passing this exam, candidates will be acknowledged as Professional Land Surveyors-in-Training (PLSIT).
3. Gain practical experience under a licensed professional land surveyor in the actual practice of land surveying.
4. Pass and experience-base examination. Currently NCEES provides such an examination styled Principles and Practices of Land Surveying (PLS) that requires six hours to complete, is open book and given twice each year, in April and October. In addition, the specific legal principles and jurisdictional aspects of practice within the State of Tennessee will be examined by the Tennessee Board of Examiners for Land Surveyors for two hours on the same day. Successfully passing these examinations will result in the registration and licensing of the applicants as professional land surveyors to practice within Tennessee.

In order to provide for the examination and recognition of land surveyor interns prior to the effective date of the above state contingent law, this Board, effective immediately, will accept applications for Professional Land Surveyors-in-Training (PLSIT) candidates and cite for examination by the NCEES FLS examination, who furnish acceptable evidence to the Board that they have qualifications as follows:

1. High school graduate or GED diploma.
2. Be of good character and repute.

3. Have four years of progressively responsible experience under a licensed surveyor, provided that:
 - a. Earning a bachelor's degree in a land surveying or equivalent curriculum in an ABET accredited institution will be accepted as four years' experience. Specifically, seniors scheduled for graduation may make application and be accepted without graduation provided that a representative of the institution verifies that the applicant is a student of the senior class, is in good standing and graduation is expected.
 - b. Each year of successful matriculation or teaching at an acceptable school or institution of higher learning with major study in land surveying or equivalent curriculum will be accepted as experience. Generally, a course load of 30 semester hours of credit will be considered a year of experience in this application.

All qualifications, experience and education are to be provided on an application form provided by the Board.

The application fee of \$25.00, as provided by regulations, must accompany the application and the examination fee of \$125.00 must be received after approval of the application and prior to admittance to the examination.

Successfully passing the FLS examination will result in the acknowledgment and recognition of the applicant as a Professional Land Surveyor-in-Training (PLSIT), and as a PLSIT intern, advance in the process to complete the additional experience and examinations required by law to become a licensed land surveyor. The Board may discontinue, change or otherwise modify this policy in the future, and the recognition or designation issued to any applicant may be withdrawn at any time by the Board.